



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
McDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING**

**Thursday, January 6, 2011  
SUMMARIZED MINUTES  
Granite Reef Senior Center, Room 8  
1700 N. Granite Reef road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257**

**PRESENT:** Gerald Miller, Chairman/Commissioner  
Howard Myers, Vice Chairman/Chairman Elect  
Fred Klein, Commissioner  
Deke Joralmon, Commissioner  
Linda Whitehead, Commissioner  
Melinda Gulick, Commissioner  
Carla, Commissioner  
Susan Wheeler, Commissioner  
BJ Heggli, Commissioner (telephonic)

**ABSENT:** James Heitel, Commissioner/Vice Chairman Elect  
Rand Hubbell, Commissioner

**STAFF:** Bill Murphy  
Kroy Ekblaw  
Claire Miller  
Robbin Schweitzer  
Scott Hamilton

**GUESTS:** Oliver Smith  
Mike Nolan

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Miller called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

To listen to this meeting in its entirety, please go to [www.scottsdaleaz.gov](http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov), click on Mayor, Council, and Government, click on Boards and Commissions, click on McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission, click on Meeting Audios/Videos, go to Archived Videos (at the bottom) and click on the meeting you wish to listen to. Computers are available for public use at Scottsdale's public libraries.

Members present as noted above.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Approval of the regular meeting minutes of December 2, 2010**

Commissioners reviewed and made amendments to the minutes.

**COMMISSIONER JORALMON MOVED TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 2, 2010 MCDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE COMMISSION MINUTES AS AMENDED. SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIRMAN MYERS, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH A VOTE OF NINE (9) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONERS HEITEL AND HUBBELL WERE ABSENT.**

**5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS - 2011**

- **Nomination of Chairman for the Commission**

**COMMISSIONER WHITEHEAD NOMINATED HOWARD MYERS FOR THE POSITION OF CHAIRMAN. COMMISSIONER WHEELER SECONDED THE NOMINATION.**

**COMMISSIONER GULICK NOMINATED DEKE JORALMON FOR THE POSITION OF CHAIRMAN. COMMISSIONER JORALMON DECLINED THE NOMINATION.**

**CHAIRMAN MILLER DECLARED HOWARD MYERS CHAIRMAN OF THE MCDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE COMMISSION BY ACCLAMATION.**

- **Nomination of Vice-Chairman for the Commission**

**COMMISSIONER HEGGLI NOMINATED DEKE JORALMON FOR THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIRMAN. COMMISSIONER GULICK SECONDED THE NOMINATION.**

**COMMISSIONER WHITEHEAD NOMINATED JIM HEITEL FOR THE POSITION OF VICE CHAIRMAN. COMMISSIONER CARLA SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**COMMISSIONER WHITEHEAD MOVED TO CLOSE NOMINATIONS. SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIRMAN MYERS, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH A VOTE OF NINE (9) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONERS HEITEL AND HUBBELL WERE ABSENT.**

**COMMISSIONER HEITEL WAS ELECTED VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE MCDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE COMMISSION WITH A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO FOUR (4). COMMISSIONER GULICK, COMMISSIONER KLEIN, COMMISSIONER HEGGLI, AND COMMISSIONER JORALMON DISSENTED. VICE CHAIRMAN ELECT HEITEL AND COMMISSIONER HUBBELL WERE ABSENT.**

Chairman Miller invited Chairman Elect Myers to assume the duties of the Chair. Chairman Elect Myers presided over the remainder of the meeting.

## **6. MCDOWELL SONORAN CONSERVANCY UPDATE**

Mike Nolan, Executive Director of the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy, introduced himself and reviewed his background and qualifications.

Oliver Smith reminded the Commission that they are welcomed to attend the Founders Day event scheduled at the Gateway on January 22, 2011 beginning at 8:00 a.m.

## **7. MSPC 2010 ANNUAL REPORT**

Mr. Murphy presented the 2010 Annual Report. Commissioners reviewed the report and suggested amendments.

**COMMISSIONER GULICK MOVED TO APPROVE THE MSPC 2010 ANNUAL REPORT AS AMENDED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MILLER, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH A VOTE OF NINE (9) TO ZERO (0). VICE CHAIRMAN ELECT HEITEL AND COMMISSIONER HUBBELL WERE ABSENT.**

## **8. VOLUNTEER DAY**

In response to Commissioner Klein's previous suggestion to hold a volunteer recognition event, Mr. Murphy noted that volunteer events are already scheduled for the week of April 10<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup> and that Mayor Lane has been asked to proclaim that week Volunteer Week. Discussion ensued regarding taking advantage of promotional opportunities and the possibility of extending Volunteer Week to two weeks and working with already scheduled activities ending with a celebration and recognition ceremony on Earth Day. Further discussion regarding assigning the Promotion Committee to work with staff to coordinate promotional opportunities surrounding these events will be agendaized for the February meeting.

## **9. FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Mr. Ekblaw noted that the third quarter report was included in the Commission packet. In response to an inquiry, he explained that land acquisition projections are still considered reasonable; if the trend were to change, projections for 2012 would be adjusted. Financial Services has recently provided presentations to the Land Resources Task Force and information for a more comprehensive discussion about bonding or repackaging of bonds should be prepared by February or March.

## **10. COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS**

- **Land Resources Task Force**

Commissioner Gulick said that the Task Force is working on their format and will be prepared to report to the Commission at the March meeting.

Mr. Ekblaw briefly discussed the land acquisition process and the division of the State Parks matching funds.

## **11. COMMERCIAL USE POLICY**

**Modify the definition of “Commercial Use” in the “Definitions” section of the Commercial Permit guidelines, removing the reference to a separate non-profit policy.**

Mr. Hamilton reviewed the proposed changes to the Commercial Use Policy.

**COMMISSIONER JORALMON MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDED COMMERCIAL USE POLICY. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GULICK, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH A VOTE OF NINE (9) TO ZERO (0). VICE CHAIRMAN ELECT HEITEL AND COMMISSIONER HUBBELL WERE ABSENT.**

## **12. STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Ekblaw gave an update on the progress of the two land acquisitions, the six-acre parcel donation, and the DDC Phase III selection process. February's agenda will include a discussion about selling more Preserve bonds to help pay for the acquisition of the 2000 acres.

Ms. Miller presented before and after photographs of activities in the Preserve including cactus salvage and wildlife water catchments and talked briefly about the water catchment renovation.

Mr. Hamilton distributed the amended Special Use Policy and gave an update on Brown's Ranch and Tom's Thumb usage information obtained from the trail counters and parking lots. He noted that Fountain Hills Council was considering equestrian usage tonight.

Mr. Murphy said that approximately 12 families participated in the after school Adaptive Rec and teen program. The program will be enhanced in the hopes of gaining more participants in the spring. He encouraged Commissioners to attend Mayor Lane's State of the City address on February 3 and the land purchase ceremony and challenge on January 29.

## **13. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Whitehead commented that the quality of the directional signs in the Preserve are superior to those in Piestewa Peak.

Commissioner Miller thanked the Commission and staff for their hard work during his time as Chairman.

Commissioner Wheeler commented about the recent popularity of Arizona and in particular the McDowell Mountains among spiritualists.

**14. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 2011**

- **Reschedule February meeting date to either February 7 or 9, 2011**
- **Naming policy**

The Commission reviewed the February 3<sup>rd</sup> agenda items and agreed to start the meeting at 3:00 p.m. in order to avoid a conflict with Mayor Lane's State of the City Address.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.